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AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend page 11, line 18, through page 14, line 2, as follows:

The process according to the invention is furthermore suitable, in particular, as step a) in a process for preparing enantiomer-enriched compounds of the formula (VI),

in which

heteroaryl has the same meaning as that given under formula (I), and

 R^2 and R^3 are, in each case independently of each other, hydrogen, C_1 - C_8 -alkyl, C_4 - C_{14} -aryl or C_5 - C_{15} -arylalkyl, or the two radicals R^2 and R^3 are together C_3 - C_{12} -alkylene, which is characterized in that

in a step a),

compounds of the formula (I) are converted, as previously described, into enantiomerenriched compounds of the formula (II)

heteroaryl-CH(OH)-CH₂-CO-CH₂W (II)

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heteroaryl-CH(OH)-CH₂W (II)

where, in each case,

heteroaryl and W have the meanings mentioned under formula (I), and in a step b)

i) when W is COOR¹ and R¹ is hydrogen, C₁-C₈-alkyl, C₄-C₁₀-aryl or C₅-C₁₁-arylalkyl,

the enantiomer-enriched compounds of formula (II) are reacted with amines of the formula (III)

HNR²R³ (III)

in which R² and R³ have the meaning mentioned under formula (VI), to give enantiomer-enriched compounds of the formula (IV),

heteroaryl-CH(OH)-CH₂-CO-NR²R³ (IV)

in which heteroaryl, R² and R³ have the previously mentioned meanings, or

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when W is CON(R¹)₂ and the R¹ radicals are in each case, independently of each other, hydrogen, C₁-C₈-alkyl, C₄-C₁₀-aryl or C₅-C₁₁-arylalkyl, or the two R¹ radicals are together C₃-C₅-alkylene,

the enantiomer-enriched compounds of the formula (II) are converted, where appropriate by reacting with amines of the formula (III), into enantiomer-enriched compounds of the formula (IV), and

when W is CN, the compounds of the formula (II) are converted directly, by means of aminolysis/hydrolysis, into compounds of the formula (IV), or are initially converted, by means of hydrolysis, partial hydrolysis or mixed alcoholysis/hydrolysis, into compounds of the formula (V)

and R⁴ is OR¹ or NH₂, where R¹ has the abovementioned meaning, and

in which heteroaryl has the meaning given under formula (I)

are then converted, by amidation in analogy with i) or, where appropriate, in analogy with ii), into enantiomer-enriched compounds of the formula (IV), and

in a step c),

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the enantiomer-enriched compounds of the formula (IV) are converted, by means of reduction, into enantiomer-enriched compounds of the formula (IV) having the abovementioned meaning.

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